

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A controller which can transmit data for performing calibration of an image forming apparatus to the image forming apparatus, comprising:

5 memory means for storing information showing that the calibration of said image forming apparatus is being executed; and

10 job managing means for assigning a job assigned to the image forming apparatus whose calibration is being executed to another image forming apparatus.

2. A controller according to claim 1, wherein
 said image forming apparatus is a printer, and
 said job managing means assigns a job for
15 instructing to print which was assigned to a printer whose calibration is being executed to another printer.

3. A controller according to claim 1, wherein
 said image forming apparatus is a copier having a
20 function for reading an image, and

 said job managing means assigns a job for
instructing to print and a job for instructing to read
the image which were assigned to a copier whose
calibration is being executed to another copier.

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4. A controller according to claim 1, wherein said calibration is a process for stabilizing an output

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density fluctuation due to a difference among image forming apparatuses or due to an environmental change in temperature or humidity.

5 5. A controller according to claim 1, further comprising control means for outputting print data for performing the calibration of the image forming apparatus to the image forming apparatus, calculating calibration data from a measurement result of a printed
10 matter, and outputting print data indicative of said calibration data to the image forming apparatus.

6. A controller according to claim 1, wherein
15 said memory means stores a job and an identifier indicative of the image forming apparatus to which said job has been assigned so as to correspond to each other, and

20 said job managing means changes the identifier corresponding to the job assigned to the image forming apparatus whose calibration is being executed to an identifier of another image forming apparatus.

25 7. An image forming system in which a plurality of image forming apparatuses and a controller which can transmit data for performing calibration of the image forming apparatus to the image forming apparatus are connected, wherein said controller comprises:

memory means for storing information showing that the calibration of said image forming apparatus is being executed; and

job managing means for assigning a job assigned to the image forming apparatus whose calibration is being executed to another image forming apparatus.

8. A system according to claim 7, wherein said calibration is a process for stabilizing an output density fluctuation due to a difference among image forming apparatuses or due to an environmental change in temperature or humidity.

9. A system according to claim 7, wherein said controller further has control means for outputting print data for performing the calibration of the image forming apparatus to the image forming apparatus, calculating calibration data from a measurement result of a printed matter, and outputting print data indicative of said calibration data to the image forming apparatus, and

said image forming apparatus has printing means for printing on the basis of the print data for executing the calibration.

10. A system according to claim 7, wherein said memory means stores a job and an identifier

indicative of the image forming apparatus to which said job has been assigned so as to correspond to each other, and

said job managing means changes the identifier
5 corresponding to the job assigned to the image forming apparatus whose calibration is being executed to an identifier of another image forming apparatus.

11. A method of controlling calibration of an image
10 forming apparatus, comprising the steps of:

storing information showing that the calibration
of said image forming apparatus is being executed; and

assigning a job assigned to the image forming
apparatus whose calibration is being executed to
15 another image forming apparatus.

12. A method according to claim 11, wherein

when said image forming apparatus is a printer,
a job for instructing to print which was assigned
20 to a printer whose calibration is being executed is assigned to another printer.

13. A method according to claim 11, wherein

when said image forming apparatus is a copier
25 having a function for reading an image,

a job for instructing to print and a job for
instructing to read the image which were assigned to a

copier whose calibration is being executed are assigned to another copier.

14. A method according to claim 11, wherein said
5 calibration is a process for stabilizing an output density fluctuation due to a difference among image forming apparatuses or due to an environmental change in temperature or humidity.

10 15. A method according to claim 11, further comprising a control step of outputting print data for performing the calibration of the image forming apparatus to the image forming apparatus, calculating calibration data from a measurement result of a printed
15 matter, and outputting print data indicative of said calibration data to the image forming apparatus.

16. A method according to claim 11, further comprising the steps of:

20 storing a job and an identifier indicative of the image forming apparatus to which said job has been assigned so as to correspond to each other, and

changing the identifier corresponding to the job assigned to the image forming apparatus whose
25 calibration is being executed to an identifier of another image forming apparatus.

17. A program for controlling calibration of an image forming apparatus and allowing a computer to execute said program, comprising:

5 a memory step of storing information showing that the calibration of said image forming apparatus is being executed; and

a job managing step of assigning a job assigned to the image forming apparatus whose calibration is being executed to another image forming apparatus.

10 18. A program according to claim 17, wherein said image forming apparatus is a printer, and in said job managing step, a job for instructing to print which was assigned to a printer whose
15 calibration is being executed is assigned to another printer.

19. A program according to claim 17, wherein said image forming apparatus is a copier having a
20 function for reading an image, and in said job managing step, a job for instructing to print and a job for instructing to read the image which were assigned to a copier whose calibration is being executed are assigned to another copier.

25 20. A program according to claim 17, wherein said calibration is a process for stabilizing an output

density fluctuation due to a difference among image forming apparatuses or due to an environmental change in temperature or humidity.

5 21. A program according to claim 17, wherein said program allows the computer to execute:

an output step of outputting print data for performing the calibration of the image forming apparatus to the image forming apparatus;

10 a calculating step of calculating calibration data from a measurement result of a printed matter; and

a control step of outputting print data indicative of said calibration data to the image forming apparatus.

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22. A program according to claim 17, wherein

in said storing step, a job and an identifier indicative of the image forming apparatus to which said job has been assigned are stored so as to correspond to each other, and

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in said job managing step, the identifier corresponding to the job assigned to the image forming apparatus whose calibration is being executed is changed to an identifier of another image forming apparatus.

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23. A memory medium which stores a program for

controlling calibration of an image forming apparatus
and allowing a computer to execute said program:
wherein said program comprises:

5 a memory step of storing information showing that
the calibration of said image forming apparatus is
being executed; and

a job managing step of assigning a job assigned to
the image forming apparatus whose calibration is being
executed to another image forming apparatus.

10 24. A medium according to claim 23, wherein
said image forming apparatus is a printer, and
in said job managing step, a job for instructing
to print which was assigned to a printer whose
15 calibration is being executed is assigned to another
printer.

20 25. A medium according to claim 23, wherein
said image forming apparatus is a copier having a
function for reading an image, and
in said job managing step, a job for instructing
to print and a job for instructing to read the image
which were assigned to a copier whose calibration is
being executed are assigned to another copier.

25 26. A medium according to claim 23, wherein said
calibration is a process for stabilizing an output

density fluctuation due to a difference among image forming apparatuses or due to an environmental change in temperature or humidity.

5 27. A medium according to claim 23, wherein said program allows the computer to execute:

an output step of outputting print data for performing the calibration of the image forming apparatus to the image forming apparatus;

10 a calculating step of calculating calibration data from a measurement result of a printed matter; and

a control step of outputting print data indicative of said calibration data to the image forming apparatus.

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28. A medium according to claim 23, wherein

in said storing step, a job and an identifier indicative of the image forming apparatus to which said job has been assigned are stored so as to correspond to each other, and

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in said job managing step, the identifier corresponding to the job assigned to the image forming apparatus whose calibration is being executed is changed to an identifier of another image forming apparatus.

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